

Why do Empires Fall? Notes & Guided Notes

1. Reasons are both _____ and _____, but may include.....

2. Social Causes

a. The way people lived and acted started to _____.

b. Decline in _____ and _____.

i. Examples:

1. _____ rates going up

2. _____ use on the rise

3. In Rome, gruesome _____ fights becoming more popular.

c. Public Health

i. People started to live in _____ ways leading them to become _____ and dying _____ than would be expected.

d. Decay in the Cities

i. _____ in the cities were general very poor

ii. Run down _____ and _____ in apartments led to people living in filthy conditions.

3. Economic Causes

a. Bad _____ = People suffering

b. Can lead people to _____ against the _____.

c. Other nations can also _____ the empire easier.

d. Unemployment

i. Unemployment rates can lead to _____ in an empire. If People have no way of making _____ they blame it on the _____.

ii. Also, the government cannot make as much from _____ as they had in the past if people are not _____.

e. Inflation

i. Inflation is the rise in _____ on goods and services.

ii. Example: in 1996 the average price of a movie ticket was \$4.42. Present day the price is _____.

iii. If prices are rising and people are making the same about of money or nor working at all, people have _____ money to spend on _____ that they don't need to live.

4. Political Causes

- a. If the government is not _____, the empire is not _____.
- b. Weak Emperors
 - i. If the emperor can't make _____, other people will start making them for him.
 - ii. He will also be easier to _____. Typically, when emperors have a short time as rulers, the government will _____.
 - iii. When military rulers become too _____, they have the power to take over a weak emperor.
- c. Corruption
 - i. When people are in a position of power, they can be _____ about what is going on
 - ii. They can _____ positions of power to the person who can _____ the most money.
 - iii. Also, they can make _____ that will benefit _____ and not the empire.

5. Military Weakness – Internal Cause

- a. One of the most important characteristics of an empire is their _____ . Without that it is hard to keep them empire going.
- b. Cost of maintaining the military
 - i. It is _____ to have a standing army. The _____ had to pay for the troops and weapons to _____ more land.
- c. Economic troubles = no money for _____ and _____
- d. The size of the empire plays a huge role in the _____ of the military.
 - i. Too large = military has a lot of area to defend, but not a lot of _____ to do it.

6. Military Weakness – External Cause

- a. Attack from other Empires
 - i. Weak Empires = _____ to attack from other _____ or countries
 - ii. Weak military = Empire cannot _____ itself from _____ attacks and it will slowly lose _____.
 - iii. Eventually the enemy will take over most of the empire and _____ the government.